

What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

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Newsletter #77:

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Hello! I hope you all had a nice week. This weekend is a celebratory one for my family. My mother Ellen, who many of you have met from the various trade shows, turned a monumental age on July 20th. This weekend will be spent with family and just celebrating her big day (or in her case, big days!). So happy birthday Mom! She'll be with me in Philadelphia in a few weeks so make sure to stop by and say hi.

Naville Numismatic Live Auction 42 (July 22)

Naville has 676 lots on offer. This Naville auction is slightly smaller than some of the previous most likely due to the summer holidays (just an assumption). In any case, there are some ex-Dattari and ex-Clain Steffanelli coins to be found within the lots as has been in the case for the last several auctions. Remember that Naville and NAC are linked so coins that might not have sold in NAC auctions or perhaps collections that were too extensive such as Dattari and Clain Steffanelli have landed in Naville sales. I've continually found interesting material so I urge you to check out their sales.

Roma E-Live Auction 1 (July 25 and 26)

Roma has slightly changed their sale format and will conduct their first E-Live auction on July 25 and 26. The first session is 542 lots and goes through Roman Imperial coinage. The second session on July 26 has an additional 609 lots. I'm not entirely sure of the reason for the change but the reduced number of lots on a single day might make bidding less grueling for customers so I welcome it. The sale has some very attractive pieces, many at reasonable estimates. Whether those coins hammer reasonably is another question but it is worth checking out. I also would like to point out that there is a fair number of Roman gold being offered in this sale.

CNG E-Auction 425 (July 25)

There are 907 lots in this upcoming e-auction. A nice percentage of coins (17%) have pedigrees. The CNG auctions generally are very easy for me to handle so please reach out if you need help.

Fall European Trip (Sept/Oct)

It seems almost too soon to start discussing but I wanted to let all my customers know that I will be attending various auctions overseas starting in late September. At the moment it looks like I will be bidding on the auction floor at NAC, Künker and Gorny & Mosch. I understand that the Swiss auction houses are not coordinating this year so NAC will take place in late September (I just learned this so I would be weary of setting it in stone) and Nomos and Leu will be in late October. As my trip draws nearer I will give more information on my schedule. For Swiss auctions I will plan to view all material when I travel there in September so while I may not be able to attend in person I will be able to view lots for customers and bid by telephone for the auction.

PNG Day (August 13) and World's Fair of Money (August 14-18), Philadelphia, PA

The ANA in Philadelphia is coming up. My table number for PNG day is number 412. For those of you unfamiliar, the PNG (Professional Numismatist Guild) holds a one-day bourse for their members only. I am a full member of the PNG so this year I opted to take a table. I also have free passes for any customer that wants it. Just let me know if you do. At the end of the day on the 13th I'll move to my ANA table which is 1428, next to the ANS. There are many interesting and informative events for collectors over the course of the 5 days so I urge you to take a look at the site and see what might be worthwhile for you.

<https://www.money.org/worldsfairofmoney>



Coin of the Week

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/greek-coins/islands-off-attica-aegina-c-480-456-bc?rq=gk1220>

ISLANDS off ATTICA. Aegina. c. 480-456 BC

AR Drachm, 5.85g (16mm). Sea turtle with seven pellets on shell / Four part square incuse broken into five segments.

Pedigree: Ex Gorny & Mosch 225, 2014, lot 1477. Ex Auctiones Basel 18, 1989, lot 693

Price: \$2,750

Aegina, Corinth and Athens were the very first to coin money in the western Greek world in the 6th century BC. Unlike the communities on the western coast of Asia Minor which struck electrum, an alloy of gold and silver, the mainland Greeks used only silver as their metal of choice. Of course this predilection towards silver was assuredly due to the close proximity of silver mines. Aegina, which held a supreme position of power on the sea, used the mines at Siphnos (modern day Sifnos), an island in the Cyclades in Greece. The other great mines at Laurium, Damastion and Paeonia served other leaders such as Athens. The earliest of the Aegina staters show a sea turtle, which was a badge of their powerful city. It is suggested that once Aegina lost its stature as a leading seafaring community it revised its coinage to reflect a land tortoise.

Coins from Aegina are among the most cherished of the early Greek coin series. The high relief turtles on generously sized flans reflect the strength of the city state. Most collectors of ancient coins enjoy to have both a land and sea turtle in their collections.

This particular specimen is a drachm which is scarcer than the typical larger stater denomination.

References: SNG Delepierre 1527. HGC 422. Milbank -

Grade: High relief with overall wear on high points. Nice detail and lovely dark cabinet toning. Large flan. aEF

gk1220

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/greek-coins/islands-off-attica-aegina-c-480-456-bc?rq=gk1220>

If you are interested in this coin please click the link above or email me at shanna@shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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